

REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the allowance of claims 1-5, 8-10 and 12. Claims 1-10 and 12 are currently pending, with claims 1, 3, 6 and 8 being the independent claims. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended. The amendment to the claim 6 is to correct a minor typographical error, and is cosmetic in nature. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In the October 4, 2005 Office Action, independent claim 6, and dependent claim 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,631,896 (“*Kawase*”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,083,009 (“*Bickford*”).

Claim 6 has been amended to include the limitation “means for indicating a change of a clock signal by sufficiently accurately cophasal clock signals and for outputting information indicating said change”. Support for this limitation may be found at pg. 6, lines 6-9 of the originally filed specification. No new matter has been added.

As indicated by the Examiner (pg. 5, ¶ 5) *Kawase* and *Bickford*, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest “changing a propagation assured signal on the basis of the error sum obtained from an outdoor unit, said changeover device being arranged to change clock signals after waiting for sufficiently cophasal clock signals wherein a clock signal is changed over after waiting for a sufficiently accurately cophasal clock signals,” This limitation has been added to independent claim 6. Consequently, independent claim 6 is patentable, and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 is in order, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

In view of the patentability of independent claims 1, 3, 6 and 8, for the reasons set forth above, dependent claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 12 are all patentable over the prior art.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. Early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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